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HEDGES AND WADSWORTH.

The Saratoga convention has placed before the people an excellent ticket. The candidates are certain to make a vigorous and enthusiastic campaign, and if they are successful the state can be assured of clean and honest government, straightforwardly and cheerfully administered. No two men in the state are more generally recognized as possessing transparent integrity and steadfast courage than are Mr. Hedges and Mr. Wadsworth. Even those who have differed from them most sharply at times in their judgment of men and measures have freely confessed their ability, their directness and their loyalty to their own independent convictions. There is no sham about either one of them. Both have served their state and their party well, and though they have both been long in politics and its controversies no breath of scandal has ever been raised against either of them.

Mr. Hedges is well known as a most effective campaigner in behalf of others. His great service in the first Hughes campaign was especially noteworthy. His reputation as a humorist has doubtless somewhat retarded appreciation of his serious qualities at their full worth. We once knew a wise and reverent man who was wont to say that he was convinced that God had a keen sense of humor, though most people seemed afraid to recognize it. Certainly the humor which, like that of Mr. Hedges, exposes humbug, pierces through convention to realities and puts truth in taking and homely phrase is no mean equipment for dealing with serious problems. And Mr. Hedges has shown himself abundantly able to deal with serious problems. He is a successful lawyer. He has given efficient service in several official positions and has declined opportunities to hold others, including an offer from Mr. Roosevelt to make him head of the Sub-Treasury in this city. He has been generally considered a "regular" in politics, but he has never in any way been associated with sinister influences in party management. He would take the Governor's chair absolutely free from entanglements and with the moral character and intellectual power which would assure an efficient administration of progressive reform in harmony with the Republican platform.

Mr. Wadsworth first became known to the state at large when Mr. Roosevelt and Governor Higgins selected him, in spite of his youth, to reform the conduct of the speakership and put down legislative corruption. He did it. He was a popular, able and honest speaker. His disapproval of Governor Hughes' plans for direct nominations placed him at one time in opposition to elements in the party with which he otherwise belonged. But his attitude on this subject was founded on honest conviction, was openly manifested, and when the convention of 1910 decided to advocate direct nominations, Mr. Wadsworth, in good faith, accepted the decision as binding on the party, and has this year insisted that no backward step must be taken, but that the pledge must be honestly observed. He has an expert knowledge of the business of the state, and at Albany would be able to render important service in bringing order out of the chaos of extravagance and mismanagement which has resulted from the incompetence of inexperienced Democratic lawmakers.

The Republicans frankly face a difficult campaign, owing to the Third Term party defection from what should be a united anti-Tammany army. The sentiment of the state is undoubtedly hostile to the continued rule of Governor Dix, or of some Murphy substitute for him. When the situation is calmly reviewed it must be clear that in the election of Mr. Hedges is the only hope for the end of Murphy's power. Even supposing that Mr. Straus could be elected, it is evident that he would have no Legislature behind him. His success would put both houses in Tammany hands and block reforms, while a Republican state victory would certainly carry with it the Legislature and assure the execution of a sane, progressive programme. The one hope of all truly progressive citizens is in the election of the ticket nominated yesterday at Saratoga.

THE CITY'S VOTERS.

The federal Census Bureau has just issued a bulletin which throws an interesting sidelight on the make-up of this city's voting population. There were here in April, 1910, 828,763 foreign-born white males of voting age, of whom 318,091 had been naturalized. Were all the foreign-born males of twenty-one years and upward naturalized they would constitute a majority of the electorate. In 1900 the total vote for candidates for Mayor was only 505,893, of which it seems fair to assume that at least 250,000 votes were cast by naturalized citizens. That would leave 345,000 native-born voters, with possibly a reserve of 100,000 na-

tives who did not vote or register. But if all the natives had registered they would still have fallen far short of the total of 828,763 foreign-born. If naturalization were automatic the city would be politically, as it is in many other respects, preponderantly foreign.

Of the alien elements here the Italians are most indifferent about acquiring citizenship. Only 16.7 per cent of that nationality were among the naturalized in 1910. The next to the lowest percentage was that of the Russians, born, 24.9. Yet these two nationalities are the most numerous represented here, constituting 30 per cent of the total foreign-born population. The percentage of naturalized is highest among the Germans and Irish, 65.5 in the one case and 63.1 in the other. It is often said that the English are the most reluctant of all immigrants to change their nationality. But that is not the case so far as New York City is concerned. The percentage of English-born naturalized here is 52—a rather surprising ratio.

The Census Bureau's figures show how congenial a population this city has and how varied are the elements which may ultimately make their full influence felt in the ballot boxes.

COUNTING ON HIS TALENTS.

"I don't see how Mr. Murphy could change his attitude," says Governor Dix emphatically with reference to the boss's attitude in favor of his renomination. Neither do we. Murphy may not renominate Dix, but he will not cease to want him renominated. Dix is the most servicable tool Murphy could have in the Governorship, and the boss will never change his attitude of favor toward a servicable tool. Shall the right hand lunge the left or the belly change its attitude toward the mouth?

The Governor has been precisely what Murphy wanted him to be. To renominate Dix is for Murphy almost like setting a stamp of approval upon himself. And more, for it opens up a future which he himself can approve. Bosses sometimes turn down their Dicks, but they never change their attitude toward them. If they could all give a Dix, when they found one, many renominations, and spend their time while the office was thus filled in picking out a successor of exactly the same sort.

No, Mr. Dix is entirely justified in saying with emphasis that he cannot see how the boss could change his attitude. To elect Dix would mean two more years like the last two for Murphy. Can any one expect the boss to change his attitude toward that prospect? And what will become of the system if the boss says to the faithful servant who has put the boss's talent out at usury and caused it to increase ten talents: "You have been a faithful servant. Your reward shall be 'permission to sit among the 'beens.' I will make the unfaithful 'servant who hid his talent in the 'ground of insolvency' chief steward of my estates.'" Logic and all the parables are on the side of the Governor. This helps a servant to speak confidently of his master's justice.

ORATOR PUFF ABROAD.

According to The Tribune's London dispatches our New Jersey Orator Puff has got the newspapers of that city by the ears. Not appreciating the eclectic character of his thought, or realizing that a public man can hold two diametrically opposite views on the same question at the same moment, they have engaged in a controversy over the tariff policy of the Democratic candidate for President, in which each side has been able to prove its case to the complete discomfiture of the other. Both sides have won and both have lost, and neither group of controversialists now knows exactly what to think of the political genius whose utterances one day are available to cheer British advocates of free trade and on another day are equally servicable in comforting British advocates of protection.

"The London Daily Express" has been trying to prove that Governor Wilson thoroughly understands the folly of trying to upset American trade and industry by carrying into practice the declaration of the Democratic national platform that all duties levied for protective purposes are unconstitutional. It has been able to quote with effect some of Orator Puff's assurances to workmen in industrial communities, and on Thursday it triumphantly reproduced that part of Governor Wilson's Hartford speech to which The Tribune gave some attention yesterday. The passage is worth repeating:

"Democrats—I mean simon pure Democrats who always vote the Democratic ticket—constitute nearly one-half of the voters of this country. They are engaged in all sorts of enterprises, big and little. There isn't a walk of life or a kind of occupation in which you won't find them; and as a Philadelphia paper very wittily said the other day, they can't commit economic murder without committing economic suicide. Do you suppose, therefore, that half of the population of the United States or something of that kind is going about to destroy the very foundations of our economic life by simply running amuck amid the schedules of the tariff?"

"The London Express" says that the foregoing passage gives "the lie direct" to the assertions of "The Daily News" and "The Daily Chronicle" that Governor Wilson, if elected, will try to put the United States on an enlightened free trade basis. Under ordinary circumstances "The Express's" argument would be conclusive. But our Orator Puff rises superior to ordinary circumstances. He is a law unto himself, and is likely next week, especially if the promoters of the Tariff Chamber of Horrors get hold of him, to make another deliverance in which he will contend that protective duties of any sort are a positive injury to every man, woman and child in the United States and should be abolished in the interest of common sense and economic justice. It is not yet safe for "The Express" to crow. Its free trade antagonists wisely ignored the Hartford speech. But their day will come again as soon as the Governor's geyser apparatus gets to working in some locality where protected industries are not yet well established. Then they will be able to show how the Democratic nominee

gives "the lie direct" to those who think that he will never "run amuck" amid the tariff schedules. Our British friends will find that they are as well destined to get the worst of it, as well as the best of it, in any controversy dealing with the tariff views of our great American free trade protectionist and protectionist free trader.

THE LATEST PHASE.

The strike at Lawrence is an insane performance. It is intended as a protest against the imprisonment of Eitor and Giovanniotti, who are charged with being accessories to murder as a result of a death in a riot during the preceding Lawrence strike. Eitor and Giovanniotti will be tried on Monday, and the delay in their trial, despite all that has been said about it, is largely the work of their own counsel. There is every reason to believe that they will get justice. Sane sympathizers would at least have waited until the trial was over.

But rank folly in this labor dispute, which now flames forth anew, has not been confined to the laborers. Was the arrest of Eitor and Giovanniotti itself a sensible and justifiable proceeding? The trial will soon show. But the fact that it occurred at the time when the authorities were highhandedly arresting parents who wanted to send their children out of town, where they would be properly fed, does not inspire confidence in it. The case against the prisoners, so far as it is known to the public, is not particularly impressive.

If this proceeding turns out to be another bull-headed blunder, like the attempt illegally to coerce the striking fathers and mothers and the arrest of strikers for an alleged dynamite plot of which capitalists and their sympathizers are now accused, those who made these mistakes in their panic at the dangerous situation in Lawrence last year helped to sow the seed for the present outbreak. In a critical situation such as existed in Lawrence last year and exists there again to-day, the most dangerous blunder is action which makes the striking laborers think that the powers of the state are being illegally and unfairly used against them.

FOR LIFE AND HEALTH.

Analysis of the annual report of the Registrar General of the United Kingdom, where vital statistics are kept with exceptional completeness and accuracy, affords a gratifying demonstration of the extent to which medical and sanitary science is serving the welfare of human life and health. It is known that the rate of mortality is steadily decreasing. Several factors doubtless contribute to that end, but chief among them is the unprecedented reduction in the death rate of infants under the age of five years.

In former years such children perished almost like flies in a frost. Diphtheria and croup ran riot among them and claimed thousands every year. The former reached its deadliest height in 1893, when at least one case in three proved fatal. The next year antitoxin was put into practical use, and in the death rate began a decline which has been steady and rapid, until to-day scarcely one case in twenty is fatal. As for the cases in which diphtheria occurs as a sequel to scarlet fever, in 1893 no fewer than 58.8 per cent were fatal, while now that percentage is only about 3.5. Indeed, diphtheria is likely soon to be classed among the minor and miscellaneous diseases. A similar conquest has been achieved over the once dreaded croup. In 1891 its fatalities numbered 2,438, and in 1910 only 73.

At the present time rather more than one-third of all deaths are from four diseases which are confined almost entirely to adults, namely, tuberculosis, pneumonia, bronchitis and cancer. Enteric fever was once among the deadliest, but its ravages have been greatly abated. Its deaths in 1890 were 300 in the million; in the five years 1905-09 they fell to 77, and in 1910 they were only 53. Tuberculosis, pneumonia and bronchitis are also declining in destructiveness. Cancer alone increases, so that in 1910 its death rate was 856 in the million, the highest on record; though it is probable that this apparent increase is due in part to more accurate diagnosis, which now sets down as cancer many cases which formerly would have been otherwise classed.

The net showing is a great gain for life and health through scientific conquest of disease, a conquest which may be successfully emulated in every country of the world where pains are taken to employ the same methods which have proved efficient in the United Kingdom.

MORE MOOSINGS.

The Kansas Bull Mooses are not the worst in the mooseyard, after all. They did undertake what their own friends and companions admitted to be political prudence, and did so with the apparent acquiescence and approval of the colonel himself. But the job seems to have been too rank for them, though the world still waits to hear it rebuked by the colonel, and the latest report is that they will abandon their attempt to steal the livery of the Republican party to serve the third term in. So in unblushing perseverance in evil they must yield precedence, as indeed most evil-doers must, to their fellow mooses in Hudson County, N. J.

Over there the chief Bull Moose is George L. Record, who, if it were not for the "nice derangement of epitaphs" which would be involved, might be described as a stormy petrel of troubled political waters. We are not sure that there is any party to which he is not affected to belong, unless it be the Prohibitionist. He first became talked about as a Democrat, of various degrees of Democracy. Then he became a Republican, ranging from Regular to New Idea, and seeking the United States Senatorship as the candidate of that party. When Dr. Wilson was elected Governor Mr. Record promptly constituted himself his guide, philosopher and friend, and was the putative and probably the actual author of some of the chief measures of alleged reform which, under the names of other sponsors, the Governor drove through the Legislature with the whip and spur

of executive patronage and coercion. Naturally, when the third term movement took shape he rushed into it with the zeal of an expert trimmer and made himself its most conspicuous leader in that state.

On Tuesday last, however, he and his followers butted, moose fashion, into the Republican primaries, apparently with the inexplicable acquiescence of those who still call themselves Republicans, and thus secured his nomination for Representative in Congress on the regular Republican ticket. Mr. Record has hitherto been uncommonly severe in his denunciations of men of one party who vote at the primaries of another party, and when he drafted the Geran election law of New Jersey, as he is commonly believed to have done for Governor Wilson, he took pains to make such conduct under the law criminal and subject to a heavy penalty. Apparently he does not think that either the Republicans or the third termers constitute a party, or else he esteems himself to be an honorary or ex officio member of all parties.

So the interesting spectacle is presented of a professional "Progressive" entering the Republican primaries and becoming the Republican candidate for Congress and at the same time being put forward by his Bull Moose friends as the "Progressive" candidate for United States Senator on the ground that he is a Bull Moose twenty-four carats fine and absolutely free from Republicanism. We shall see if the colonel acquiesces in this also and pronounces such tactics "as clean as a hound's tooth."

They put up Job, but nobody can call it a put up job.

"I slumber not—the thorn is in my couch," is Mr. Bryan's favorite quotation. He has put a thorn in Governor Wilson's couch in asking the latter whether he has the moral courage to war openly on a powerful and odious boss like Murphy.

Colonel Hedges is a political philosopher in his own right. When he makes speeches or writes letters he doesn't have to fall back on Lecky and Epictetus.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

Speaking of the new labor law, which will become operative on October 1, a manufacturer of neckwear said that the clause which does away with "overtime" and limits the time of manufacture to fifty-four hours a week would delay the product and shipment of many articles of merchandise. "The law is a good one," he said, "but it imposes great hardship on the maker of high class and special articles which cannot be made up before orders are received. When the holiday season comes around and merchants telegraph to us 'Why don't you ship our order?' we will send them a card, which is already being made, on which will be printed: 'Cannot ship; cannot work overtime. Sorry!'"

Hardup—That fellow B Jones must have money. I'll send him a card. Introduce me to him—Philadelphia Record.

Under the headline "How Russia Rewards Her Artists" the "Berliner Tageblatt" tells the sad story of Agapovov Slavianski, who about twenty years ago organized an orchestra, and in a tour of Germany and Austria introduced to the musical world the folk music of Russia, which up to that time had received only slight and mediocre interpretation. "His efforts," says the account, "were successful, and he profited financially to such an extent that he bought and paid for an estate near Moscow. Then, at the invitation of the Czar, he took his company to the exhibition at Nishi-Novogorod at tremendous expense, and when he asked to be compensated his request was ignored by the government. His estate was sold for debt, an attack of heart failure caused the musician's death and to-day his family is in dire poverty."

"Even as an ambulance surgeon young Squills is showing remarkable aptitude for his work," says the "Berliner Tageblatt." "Yes, I understand he actually once told the difference between a drunken man and one with a fractured skull"—Life.

According to the American Jewish Year Book, just issued, the year 5673, which began on September 12, will be "a perfect leap year of thirteen months, fifty-five Sabbaths," having 385 days. The year is "the eleventh of the 29th lunar cycle of nineteen years and the seventeenth year of the 204th or solar cycle of twenty-eight years since the creation."

"Are you going fishing to-morrow morning?" asked the rural citizen.

"No," replied the man from town. "So long as I can't go fishing to-day I won't bother. I never yet fished without learning that they were biting fish yesterday!"—Washington Star.

While a ball was in full swing at the village of Alstatten, near St. Gall, Switzerland, a police dog, followed by gendarmes, entered the room, and a well-dressed young man was arrested on the charge of murder. He had killed—it was supposed through jealousy—a pretty Swiss girl of seventeen, Regina Stabler, by name. In Switzerland on a general holiday (as in this case) dancing begins in the afternoon, and is continued until midnight in many villages. Between the dances the young man and the girl were seen together on the road, a little distance away from the restaurant, and her body was discovered soon after. The police were informed, and placed a trained dog on the scent, which went in a direct line to the ballroom, and wanted to pull down the murderer. The latter has since confessed to the crime.

"Madam," began the tramp, "may I inquire as to your husband's politics?"

"He was a Bull Moose, but not any more."

"I heard as much. Now, perhaps, you have some old armor that you do not want?"—Pittsburgh Post.

New York boasts of a luncheon room goes under the name "The Progressive Restaurant." A supporter of Colonel Roosevelt, attracted by the name, walked into the restaurant and ordered two cups of coffee and some rolls. His hunger having been satisfied, his curiosity became more keen and approaching the proprietor, who also acted as waiter, he asked: "Why do you call this the Progressive Restaurant?" "Because," said the astute owner, "if you want a third cup of coffee you may have it and no objections will be raised and no questions asked."

"My wife and myself are trying to get up a list of club magazines. By taking three you get a discount."

"How are you making out?"

"Well, we can get on that I don't want, and one that I don't want, and one that neither of us wants for \$23."—Washington Herald.

Pedestrians in Broadway, in the neighborhood of Canal street, saw a sign in the doorway of a loft building the other day that brought a smile to their faces and then gave them an opportunity to exer-

cise their sense of humor. A manufacturer who wanted to engage the services of several new employees had hung out this placard: "Wanted, young girls to learn work on feathers." Without doubt ninety-nine persons out of every hundred who noticed the sign remarked, "There is a chance for any one looking for a soft job."

Son—Pa, what's an inscrutable smile? Father—I'm the kind, my son, your mother had on her face this morning when I told her business might keep me out late to-night.—Trib-Bits.

IRONY AND THE RECALL.

Mr. Kiernan Discourses on Self-Government in the Schools.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your editorial of yesterday on the strike of the children of two local schools who objected to the transfer of their principals did a grave injustice to the principle of self-government among pupils as a training for citizenship.

In the first place, the editorial implied that self-government is a part of the organization of the schools where the strikes occurred. Not only is this not so, but I am certain that if those schools had been organized with self-government the rebellions would not have occurred. For the very point of allowing the pupils to participate in their own government is that it trains them in a rational respect for lawfully constituted authority. Far from taking the law into their own hands, they would have met in mass meetings, and after a discussion of their grievances they would have sent committees to the Board of Education respectfully, but courageously, to request the retention of their principals. If that be "ruining the Board of Education with a firm hand," make the most of it!

A hundred principals whom I know are unanimous in their testimony that one of the greatest advantages of self-government is the respect for law it engenders in the pupils. The boys of a Brooklyn school had a street paved through their orderly appeal to the lawfully constituted authorities. The boys in a Manhattan school had shade trees planted by the Park Department through their appeal to a Commissioner Stover. The boys in a Newark school are having a gymnasium installed after their respectful but persistent appeals to the Board of Education, and hardly a day goes by in any self-government school but some orderly progressive step is taken because the pupils have a share in their own government. But these things are done only under the guidance and with the encouragement of their superiors, who are broad-minded enough to see that wholesome co-operation even with the "babes and sucklings" who to-morrow are to step out into citizenship is the best possible training for participation in democracy.

Murphy and Taggart and Calhoun and the rest of their ilk thrive because the average citizen "does not care about politics," and he does not care because he has never been taught to care. How many men take their duty at this time seriously enough to inquire into the real achievements of President Taft? Not many, indeed, because they are content to be swept along by the tide of unrest. Our schools are not training for citizenship, and never will till they discard the absurd system of trying to make good citizens by giving them mere information about government instead of practice in living as freemen.

Self-government is not a "shadow," but is the very substance of preparing the citizen of to-morrow for an active, courageous and orderly participation in this democracy. FRANK KIERMAN, Assistant Secretary of the School Children's Committee.

New York, Sept. 25, 1912.

[Apparently the recall most needed is the recall of irony.—Ed.]

STREET ALMOST IMPASSABLE.

West 29th Street Manufacturer Asks Information as to Remedy.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: We happen to be tenants in a building in West 29th street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, and for the last two months the street has been more or less impassable, usually more. Repeated appeals to the Department of Street Cleaning and those of Public Works and Police have resulted in only partial removal of the obstructions to traffic complained of. Is it true that building contractors need not respect the rights of others unless it happens to suit their pleasure and that permits to use the roadway for building material entitle them to use it for storing excavated dirt and material not needed for some time and that they can maintain bridges when no longer necessary? Or are they supposed to do their best to minimize the necessary inconvenience to others while they are working?

The city authorities seem to proceed on the assumption that others must be put to any inconvenience if thereby the builder is inconvenienced in the slightest degree. Now, can you tell me to whom we should apply to have our rights to the use of the street enforced equally with the rights of builders? S. C. LEWIS, New York, Sept. 25, 1912.

A QUESTION OF IDENTITY.

Infelicitous Quotation from Kipling Causes Bull Moose Doubts.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I have been considerably amused and puzzled by the appearance in this neighborhood of lithographs of Roosevelt and Johnson, which, in addition to the figures of the candidates, bear the lines:

There is neither East nor West, Border nor breed nor class, When two strong men stand face to face, Though they come from the ends of the earth.

Every one who knows his Kipling is aware that one of the "strong men" referred to in the poem is a particularly ingenious horse thief, and that further on in the poem it is declared:

The thief is kin to the jackal spawn.

I have no desire to quarrel with the charming frankness of the lithograph, but I really do think that it might be a little more definite. Which is which? Governor Johnson's recent remarks in regard to the President of the United States suggest the jackal and Colonel Roosevelt's political methods are quite in accord with those of the freebooter. But in the poem the horse thief and the jackal are supposed to be one and the same person, while on the lithograph they are represented as entirely separate individuals. This may be perfectly in accord with the facts—of that the Progressives themselves are the best judges—but it is quite fair to Kipling?

Utica, N. Y., Sept. 25.

TWO STORY CARS NOT NEW.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The item in The Tribune this morning stating that the new two-story cars could not go under the elevated rails reminds me that about the year 1914 two-story horse cars were run on the Sixth avenue line in an effort to prevent the erection of the first elevated railroad structure.

New York, Sept. 25, 1912.

W. H. PRICE.

People and Social Incidents.

NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Miss Natalie Duncan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Butler Duncan, will be married to-day to Louis W. Noel in the Church of St. Peter of Alcantara, Port Washington, Long Island. The ceremony will be performed at noon, and a wedding breakfast will follow at the country place of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, Parkhill, Port Washington.

The bride's attendants will be Miss Edith Mortimer, Miss Leta Pell Wright, Miss Noel Johnston, Miss Celestine Hitchcock, Miss Elizabeth Love Godwin, Miss Frances Godwin, Miss Ellen Nugur, of Chicago, and Miss Louis Robinson, of Providence.

Auguste L. Noel will act as his brother's best man and the ushers will be David Duncan, Reginald R. Hovey, W. Fellows Morgan, Jr., Joseph Grinnell Willis, Fredrick Marquand Godwin, Thomas A. Emmerich Harris, Marshall Russell and Gardner Casart, of Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Edgar Bull have issued invitations for the wedding of their daughter, Miss Marion Frances Bull, to Butler Whiting, on October 16, in St. Bartholomew's Church.

The Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, with their daughter, Lady Rosemary Leveson-Gower, and their son, Lord Alastair Leveson-Gower, will sail for Europe to-day on the Olympic. They arrived in the city a few days ago from their place in the province of Alberta and have been staying at the Ritz-Carlton.

Lady Elliott and her son, Gilbert Elliott, who is to marry Miss Flourence Adams Hopkins on October 10, left town yesterday to spend the week end with the latter's mother, Mrs. W. Willoughby Sharp, at Southampton, Long Island. Lady Elliott and her son are making their headquarters at the Hotel Gotham. The wedding is to take place in St. Andrew's-on-the-Dunes, Southampton.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Miss Dorothy Forster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Forster, to Rutter Bleeker Miller, son of the late Colonel Alexander Macomb Miller, U. S. A. Mr. Miller was graduated from Yale in 1909 and from the Columbia Law School in 1913. He is a member of the Union and other clubs.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilber Bloodgood will leave Briarcliff Manor next week and go to Hot Springs, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Porter will leave Elberon, N. J., on Tuesday for Lakewood, where they will remain until November.

Sir George and Lady Reid will return to the city to-day from Boston, and will be at the Plaza until Wednesday, when they will sail for Europe on the Mauretania.

Miss Ruth H. Flint, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Huntington Flint, of

VINCENT ASTOR RETURNS.

Miss Laura Webb His Constant Companion on Liner.

Vincent Astor, son of the late John Jacob Astor and heir to the great bulk of the Astor fortune, arrived here yesterday on the Cunard liner Mauretania, after spending the summer with his mother in London.

Other passengers were Mr. and Mrs. F. Egerton Webb and their daughter, Miss Laura. As the Webbs and Astors have been friends for many years, Mr. Astor was much in the company of Miss Webb. Their constant companionship soon gave rise to idle rumors of an engagement.

When the vessel docked yesterday the young man was asked if there was any likelihood of an engagement, but he replied that he did not care to discuss his personal affairs. Miss Webb laughingly declared that she and Vincent Astor had been friends from childhood, and that their association aboard ship was merely a continuation of that friendship.

Mr. Astor said the sudden inheritance of his father's vast estate had saddled him with responsibilities so great that he would not be able to resume his studies at Harvard University.

He said he had leased the home in Fifth avenue owned by Lloyd Bryce, the American Minister to the Netherlands, and that as soon as it was ready for occupancy his mother would come to New York and live there with him.

AMERICAN ARTISTS RETURN.

W. M. Chase Brings Portraits and Ralston Several Purchases.

William M. Chase, the American painter, who spent the summer at Bruges, Belgium, teaching American post-graduate students and painting portraits, returned yesterday on the Cunard liner Mauretania from Liverpool. The artist said he had made a portrait of Miss Belle Lothrop, of Detroit, one of his pupils. She posed in American Continental costume, and Mr. Chase called the picture his "Yankee Doodle Girl." He said five portraits would soon arrive here from Antwerp and that he would give an exhibition this winter.

Also on the Mauretania was Louis Ralston, the artist, who had been abroad making purchases of paintings of old masters. He said the one he liked best was a portrait of Michel Angelo, painted by the great Italian pupil, Giuliano Guardino. Mr. Ralston's collection included portraits by Rubens, Sir Thomas Lawrence, Gainsborough and Allan Ramsay.

Among others on the Mauretania were: Lloyd Bryce, American Minister to the Netherlands and Mrs. Bryce; Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Juilliard, Dr. W. W. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Underwood, A. G. M. Weale, Miss Kathleen Berezford and Mr. and Mrs. Irving M. Day.

JOHN HAYS HAMMOND ON TAFT.

John Hays Hammond on "Why I Am for Taft." (The North American Review.)

President Taft has, I believe, made in the fullest measure a good President. In spite of the disloyalty of a faction of his own party, which was inspired by Theodore Roosevelt to discredit his administration, and in spite, also, of the obstruction for partisan purposes of the Democratic party, President Taft has accomplished the enactment of more progressive measures than any other President in a single term of office.

Let nobody imagine that because the graces of character sit happily upon our President that he lacks the fighting quality. No man, in a true sense, is a fighter, but once in a high place, he is a fighter, and he is a fighter, as he is in